**THE COMPARE-CONTRAST ESSAY: ASSIGNMENT EXPECTATIONS**

Now that we have studied the genre of dystopian fiction, as well as read 3 dystopian short stories, we are going to write a short compare-contrast essay that will examine the merits and shortcomings of different characteristics of dystopian worlds.

Your task is to select two of the three short stories that we’ve read in class:

* “The Sniper” by Liam O’Flaherty
* “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson
* “Harrison Bergeron” by Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

Once you’ve made your selection, you are to decide which of the short stories is more dystopian, according to the dystopian elements discussed in class. Use your “Dystopia: Characteristics and Definitions” handout to help you with this.

The PowerPoint presentation reviewed in class about the compare-contrast essay will help you to develop this essay. If you missed this class, the presentation is available on the course website for individual review (lmauer.wikispaces.com).

It is important that you make reference to at least THREE characteristics of a dystopia, and structure your essay along the following outline:

Paragraph #1 – Introduction

Paragraph #2 – Comparison or Concession

Paragraph #3 – Contrast #1

Paragraph #4 – Contrast #2

Paragraph #5 – Conclusion

More information about what should be discussed in each of these paragraphs is included in the aforementioned PowerPoint presentation.

This assignment will be completed in three stages. It is important for you to abide by all due dates for these stages, as the feedback provided in each stage will be valuable as you complete your final submission. Each stage of process work counts for 10 marks, and your final submission counts for 20.

* Essay Outline – due at the end of class on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Peer Edit – rough copy due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Good Copy – due \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The following rubric will be used to evaluate your work. Remember to hand it in with your good copy, and all rough/process work, on the due date.

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| **CRITERIA** | **LEVEL R**  **(0-4 MARKS)** | **LEVEL 1**  **(5 MARKS)** | **LEVEL 2**  **(6 MARKS)** | **LEVEL 3**  **(7 MARKS)** | **LEVEL 4**  **(8-10 MARKS)** |
| ***Outline 🡪***  Generate, gather, and organize ideas and information to write  for an intended purpose and audience | Outline is not submitted, is submitted but is partially complete, or does not contain a thesis, points and/or text examples which will not help to support a successful thesis | Outline contains a thesis which does not respond to the assigned question, and points and text examples which will not help to support a successful thesis | Outline contains a thesis which somewhat responds to the assigned question, and points and text examples which may help to support this thesis | Outline contains a thesis which responds t the assigned question, and points and text examples which will help to support this thesis | Outline contains a well-developed thesis which responds to the assigned question thoroughly, and points and text examples which will help to support this thesis |
| ***Peer Edit 🡪***  Use editing, proofreading, and publishing skills and strategies, and knowledge of language conventions, to correct errors, refine expression, and present  their work effectively | Rough draft is not complete or is partially complete for peer edit, student does not offer feedback for the essay they are reviewing, and/or does not incorporate feedback given into their own essay | Rough draft is complete for peer edit, student offers minimal feedback for the essay they are reviewing, and incorporates a minimal amount of the feedback they are given into their own essay | Rough draft is complete for peer edit, student offers feedback for the essay they are reviewing which is somewhat useful, and incorporates some of the feedback they are given into their own essay | Rough draft is complete for peer edit, student offers useful feedback for the essay they are reviewing, and incorporates some feedback they are given into their own essay | Rough draft is complete for peer edit, student offers thorough and useful feedback for the essay they are reviewing, and incorporates some feedback they are given into their own essay to a high degree |
| ***Good Copy 🡪***  Recognize a variety of text forms, text features, and stylistic elements  and demonstrate understanding of how they help communicate meaning | Essay is not submitted, is submitted but is partially complete, or is submitted but does not respond to the question with a thesis and use examples from the texts as support | Essay vaguely responds to the question with a very loose thesis and uses few examples from the texts to support it | Essay somewhat responds to the question with a loose thesis and uses some examples from the texts to support it | Essay responds to the question with a developed thesis and uses several examples from the texts to support it | Essay fully responds to the question with a well-developed thesis and uses several tight examples from the texts to support it |
| ***Good Copy 🡪***  Draft and revise their writing, using a variety of literary, informational, and graphic forms and stylistic elements appropriate for the purpose and audience | Essay is not submitted, is submitted but is partially complete, or is submitted but does not meet any of the requirements in formatting and/or length, and contains several formatting, documentation, spelling and/or grammatical errors | Essay is submitted and contains few of the formatting requirements, is not the required length, and/or contains several formatting, documentation, spelling and/or grammatical errors | Essay is submitted and contains some of the formatting requirements, is almost the required length, and/or contains several formatting, documentation, spelling and/or grammatical errors | Essay is submitted and is in the required format, of the required length, and/or contains few formatting, documentation, spelling and grammatical errors | Essay is submitted and is in the required format, of the required length, and is virtually free of formatting, documentation, spelling and grammatical errors |

**Total: \_\_\_\_\_/40**